

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to kits and methods for the sensitive and rapid typing
5 and enumeration of microorganisms in a sample. The basic method comprises
adhering specific capture-antibodies to a solid support, to bind to microorganisms
specific for the antibody, and adding primary antibodies specific to a viability
marker of the microorganisms. This is followed by the addition of secondary
10 antibodies that may be conjugated to a reporter molecule. Preferably the reporter
function involves light and the detectable marker is aequorin and the need for a
second antibody is overcome. The invention is useful for the detection of a number
of different microorganisms including bacteria, fungi and protozoan of a variety of
species.